

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PWO051623	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/US2005/000644	International filing date (day/month/year) 07.01.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 07.01.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. B65D83/04 B65D75/32 B65D5/38			
Applicant MEADWESTVACO CORPORATION et al.			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</i></p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application 			
Date of submission of the demand 11.10.2005	Date of completion of this report 24.04.2006		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized officer Gino, C Telephone No. +31 70 340- 		

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Description, Pages

1-17 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-33 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/17-17/17 as originally filed

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-33
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-33
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-33
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

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Re Item V.

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:
D1 : US 2003/085262 A1 (EVANS JAMES IVOR ET AL) 8 May 2003 (2003-05-08)
- 2 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):
A blister and package apparatus (100) comprising : a blister card (170) for sliding into an outer package (101), the blister card further comprising : a formable base (180), one or more blisters formed in the base, the blisters having open cavities for holding products (184), and one or more layers of frangible sheet material (182) over openings in the cavities for closing the cavities and holding the products in the cavities and for opening to release the products from the cavities, the outer package further comprising : one or more pieces of sheet material for creating an enclosure for holding the blister card, an interference mechanism (156,179) for preventing complete separation of the blister card and the outer package,
From this, the subject-matter of independent claim 1 differs in that:
the interference mechanism comprises a catch flap attached to the outer package and an interference stop on the blister card for contacting the catch flap on the outer package.
- 2.1 The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (Article 33(2) PCT)
The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as:
simplifying the blister card.
- 2.2 The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:
the blister card contains one or more additional cavities that form an interference mechanism or interference blister. The interference blister cavity does not hold product, and the catch flap is included in the outer package, in that way the carton sheet (170) of the existing art can be disposed of.

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- 2.3 Claims 2-24 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty.
- 3.1 The same reasoning applies for the independent claim 25, and the subject-matter of this claim is therefore novel (Article 33(2) PCT).
- 3.2 Claims 26-29 are dependent on claim 25 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty.
- 4.1 The independent claim 30 deals with a method for a blister and package system according to claim 1, and the subject-matter of claim 30 is therefore novel (Article 33(2) PCT)
- 4.2 Claims 31-33 are dependent on claim 30 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty.